

REMARKS


By the foregoing Amendment, Claims 16 and 17 are cancelled. Entry of the Amendment, and favorable consideration thereof is earnestly requested.

The Examiner has objected to the Specification as failing to include a specific reference to the prior application of which benefit is claimed. The Specification has been amended to include such a reference. The Examiner has also noted that a certified copy of the foreign priority document has not yet been submitted. Applicant has ordered such a certified copy and will forward it to the PTO when it is received (and no later than the date the issue fee is paid)

The Examiner has rejected Claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bonningue (US 6,206,245), but has allowed Claims 1-15. Claims 16 and 17 have been cancelled such that only allowed Claims 1-15 remain pending.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims, namely Claims 1-15, are patentable over the references of record, and earnestly solicits allowance of the same.

Respectfully submitted,



Gene S. Winter, Registration No. 28,352
Todd M. Oberdick, Reg. No. 44,268
ST. ONGE STEWARD JOHNSTON & REENS LLC
986 Bedford Street
Stamford, Connecticut 06905-5619
(203) 324-6155
Attorneys for Applicant

Amendments to the Drawings:

No amendments are made to the Drawings herein.